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prepared to consider certain cases recommended by them favourably, or whether they reserve their power until the recommendation of the Board is received and considered on its merits ?"

The hon. Dr P. SUBBARAYAN :—"If the Government feel that a good case has been made out by the people themselves, it is their duty to inform the Hindu Religious Endowments Board how they feel in the matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Is it not a fact that the Government have already received some applications from the persons concerned to consider a wholesale exemption ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The hon. Member is correct in his assumption."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"May I know, Sir, why the Government say that they will be prepared to consider a partial exemption ? Does this exemption also include the levy of contribution payable to the Board ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"As this is a matter of administrative detail, I must ask for notice."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"In view of the answer given that application was made for total exemption from the operation of Hindu Religious Endowments Act by some trustees, may I know whether the temple will be exempted from interference of the Board on the doctrine of cypres ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"As I said, with regard to administrative details, if the hon. Members want to ask me supplementary questions, I must respectfully ask for notice."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"What is meant by 'partial exemption'?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Exemption from application of certain sections of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I know what those sections are ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Here again, it is a matter of detail, and I must ask for notice."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to lay on the table a statement on the matter, so that we need not wait till another meeting of the Council for this information ?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"May I know if this partial exemption also includes exemption from the levy of a contribution ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I believe the hon. Member is correct. But I would not vouch for the exactness of his assumption."

Amendments to the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

* 259 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the proposals of the Religious Endowments Board for the amendment of Act II of 1927 have been considered ;

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(b) what action the Government propose to take thereon ; and

(c) when the comprehensive amendment of the Act is likely to be introduced into the Council ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 87.

Advances by Government to the Religious Endowments Board.

* 260 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of loans so far advanced by the Government to the Religious Endowments Board ;

(b) whether any portion of that has been recovered by the Government ; and

(c) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) Rs. 3,02,500.

(b) No.

(c) Until the Board realizes the arrears of contributions due to it, it is not in a position to repay.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (a) of this question, may I know the purposes for which these loans were advanced, whether they were particularly for the salaries of the Commissioners and their travelling allowances ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe these advances were made at the time of my predecessor in office,—I mean the predecessor of the gentleman who was last in this office—for the carrying on of the work of this Board."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister how long the department has been in existence, and whether advances are still being made ? "

11-30 a.m. The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Since I took charge of this particular portfolio, no advance has been made."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the good work that is being done by the Board and in view of the difficulties encountered by them in realising the arrears of contribution, will the Government be pleased to waive their right to recover the whole amount ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The matter will have to be considered before any definite answer could be given."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Apart from considering the question of writing off, has Government taken any steps to collect these loans from the Religious Endowments Board from the time of the advance up to this moment ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have said in the answer itself that the Board's financial condition has not been such as to make them repay the advances so far made."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am asking a question. Has the Government taken any steps or has it not taken any steps to recover this amount from the Board ? "